

# Woman and Her Ways

## THE SERVANT PROBLEM.

This Woman Would Solve It by Providing Pleasant Quarters Outside of the Kitchen.

"Where do I think charity and philanthropy ought to begin?" repeated the woman who was pouring the tea. "Why, with one's servants. Servants' sitting-rooms; there you have the key to the whole servant problem. I mean that next in necessity to your own drawing-room and the kitchen itself come rooms where your servants may receive their friends.

"A friend of mine—a woman of ideas as well as means—has fitted up a room on the second floor, a pretty room at the side of the house, and given it to the servants in which to receive their friends. It is not merely carpeted and furnished with six chairs. It was made artistic at a very moderate cost. A breadth of matting was run around the wall just above a couch covered with red denim. The walls were denim-covered and hung with a good carbon copy or two. The floor was stained and laid with cheap, effective rugs—one of them being made of coarse canvas, fringed at the ends, lined with the same and marked with a paint brush with blotches of old blue and dull red. Pillows were placed on the couches; here and there were stained pine shelves for books, finished at the top with ordinary picture molding. White dimity curtains were at the windows, and a bit of pottery stood on a shelf above the door. The room was arranged at an expense which was hardly to be mentioned, and it was very artistic and comfortable.

"In this room the servants took turns, arranging their evenings to suit themselves. They might entertain your milkman, the green grocer's boy or an honest young laborer—that was their lookout. The guests came up the back stairway, and the room was theirs.

"After a time there may begin to be a difference in the sort of callers who come. Well-appearing, well-trained servants, disciplined to soft voices and silent feet, are not likely to have very objectionable friends. But if they do, refined surroundings will help point out their objectionableness sooner than anything else. Make your home attractive to your servants and they will put up with anything rather than leave you."—N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.

## TREE TRUNK SPIRE.

St. Peter's Church, at Tacoma, Wash., is a Quaint and Simple House of Worship.

Christmas bells rang at Tacoma, Wash., from a peculiar church spire. It is a Douglas fir tree stump. The church, a small, primitive structure, was built in the midst of a rough lumber camp in the seventies by the side of the tree, so that the latter might be used for a steeple. Bishop Morris, who is still bishop of Oregon, built it.

The church was built in less than a week, but the steeple had been growing



ST. PETER'S CHURCH, TACOMA.

for over 500 years. The stump is over seven feet in diameter at the height of the fence. On its top is the church bell, surmounted by a little roof and cross. The belfry is reached by a curious ladder formed by slats on a board leaning from the roof to the tree trunk.

Over the tree grows a beautiful English ivy. This ivy has found its way into the church through a crack in the simple chapel. There it grows, a beautiful decoration for the interior of the house. It is green even at this season.

The bell was given by the Sunday school of old St. Peter's church, of Philadelphia, and the church is known as St. Peter's Episcopal church. Mr. Cheal is the rector.

**Little Rhyme for Brides.**  
Married in white, you have chosen all right;  
Married in gray, you will go far away;  
Married in black, you will wish yourself back;  
Married in red, you will wish yourself dead;  
Married in green, ashamed to be seen;  
Married in blue, he will always be true;  
Married in pearl, you will live in a whirl;  
Married in yellow, ashamed of your fellow;  
Married in brown, you will live out of town;  
Married in pink, your spirit will sink.

## MRS. LOWE HONORED.

Georgia Lady Appointed to Represent the Club Women of America at the Paris Exposition.

Mrs. William Bell Lowe, of Atlanta, Ga., president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, has received notice of her appointment as honorary president for America of the woman's board of the Paris exposition, and has notified Mme. Poguard, leader of the woman's department of the exposition, of her acceptance.

Mrs. Lowe is one of the few southern women who have become conspicuous during the past few years in the women's club movement, and she is now the official leader of that movement in America. Although it is only a short time since she became identified with



MRS. WILLIAM BELL LOWE, (President for America of the Women's Board of the Paris Exposition.)

the General Federation of Women's Clubs, of which she is the president, Mrs. Lowe has been long known in the south as a wealthy and philanthropic woman. She has a handsome home in the aristocratic quarter of Atlanta, and there dispenses notable hospitality amid the most luxuriant surroundings.

First attracted to club life during the Cotton States and International exposition, she became imbued with the idea at once, and it was at her home that the Woman's club of Atlanta was born. From this beginning the Georgia Federation grew, and Mrs. Lowe was unanimously elected its president. In 1898 she was elected presiding officer of the general federation at the Denver convention. The work of spreading the club idea among the women of the south fell to her lot, and few have any complaint to make of the success she has made in this somewhat stubborn field.

Mrs. Lowe has crossed the meridian of life, but she is still youthful in appearance, and though not a large woman has an imposing appearance and is an excellent and impressive speaker. She is of rather slight stature, her eyes are blue, and her brown hair is tinged with gray. She wears eyeglasses, dresses with elegance and taste and has the charming, easy manners that pertain to the ladies of the south. How she is held in estimation of the members of the general federation may be gathered from the fact that she—a southerner—could find friends enough to elect her the executive head of this tremendously large body of American women, the vast majority of whom live in the north.

Before her marriage Mrs. Lowe was one of the most beautiful and popular belles in the south. She has a son and a married daughter.

## FOR THE BRIDE-ELECT.

Linen, Book and Rose Showers Are Becoming Popular All Over the Country.

The bride of to-day is being made the recipient of many social honors. All her girl friends pay her tribute by these pretty entertainments, and the popular maid must be ready for her wedding several weeks before the event transpires, for at each of the functions she is supposed to wear one of her trousseau gowns. Most of these affairs are luncheons or breakfasts, each with a special feature. A "linen shower," for instance, consists of each guest bringing a piece of linen, a doily, centerpiece or bureau scarf, whatever one chooses, and as the party leaves the table the pieces are thrown at the bride-to-be.

For a "book shower" each guest brings a book appropriately inscribed to her friend, with a sentiment which the giver fancies. Of course, each hostess can use her own ideas in planning her entertainment, and in her invitations puts in one corner what each guest is to bring for the honored one. "Teaspoons," "cups and saucers," "plates" and "sofa pillows" are all acceptable. These contributions go toward furnishing the bride's new home with memories of her girlhood days and friends. The "rose shower" should be left for the last affair before the wedding, and as the bride departs an immense bag filled with rose petals is burst over her head, and each maid throws a handful of the fragrant blossoms, signifying the hope that her future may be rose-strewn. The bag is made of tissue paper, and the girls will all have been saving their rose petals for weeks for this occasion.—Chicago Times-Herald.

## CRUELTY IN RUSSIA.

Czar Rules His Big Realm with a Red-Hot Iron.

Demoniacal Punishment Inflicted Upon Men and Women—Savagery That Has Been Tabooed Even by Cannibal Tribes.

From the reports which are constantly brought by travelers and others from Siberia and other parts of the Russian empire there is no attempt being made by the czar to live up to his promise to prevent the sending of foreign political exiles to his Asiatic empire.

On the contrary, the treatment of these prisoners has become even more rigorous than at any period lately, and they are being shipped in increased numbers to that inferno, which is a curse to modern civilization.

To add to the horrors of the situation, the government grant of 300,000 roubles per year set aside for the maintenance of the political prisoners has been cut down to 100,000 roubles, while the number of these unfortunates grows bigger and bigger, and this means, of course, that many of them literally starve to death in the pitiless deserts of the north. Particularly is this the case in the provinces of Verkhoyansk and Kolimsk, where there is no possible means of earning a penny by any means whatever. Under the regulations these exiles receive no allowance until proof has been received that they have no relatives in Russia who are capable of being made to support them. The period occupied in securing this information usually occupies 12 months, and in the interim there is nothing but starvation ahead for the exile, who goes to his fate unprovided with funds.

The practice of branding those, according to the estimation of the czar's



BRANDED BY THE CZAR. (Demoniacal Punishment Inflicted on Criminals in Russia.)

officials, are the most dangerous of the most brutal and revolting that the mind can devise.

Men and women alike, says the Cincinnati Commercial Tribune, are subjected to this demoniacal punishment, which is accomplished by means of hot irons, the work being executed with an amount of savagery not even met with to-day among the fiercest cannibal tribes.

In the presence of his fellow criminals, who have the same horrible ordeal awaiting them, the shrinking victim is dragged forward and pinioned securely by brutal keepers and held tightly whilst the manipulator of the burning iron proceeds to mark the degrading brand upon his forehead. This is often done in the presence of other members of the family, and the distorted features of the unfortunate creature, the smell of burning flesh and the heart-rending shrieks of himself and others combine to produce a scene which is so nauseating as to defy description. A traveler who has been present at one of these scenes of torture says that he never saw a more frightful instance of barbarity even at the orgies of the devil worshippers of the East Indies. Civilization is disgraced and discredited by such inhuman practices conducted under its name, and one shudders with horror at the thought of the sway of such a government being extended among civilized peoples.

It has been given out that the use of the knout as a mode of punishment has been forbidden by the authorities, but that is one of the many specious pretenses with which the Russian government seeks to impose upon the credulity of outraged humanity. The knout is as much in use to-day as it ever was. Only a few years ago a peasant at Vitebsk who had been driven from the district because of being suspected of belonging to a heterodox religious sect, was discovered by the police, who applied the knout so severely to him that he expired from the effects of his beating.

It was reported by the police that the man had compassed his own destruction in prison, but his fellow workmen learned the truth and set fire to the barracks in which the police were lodged. In consequence of this act some 50 men and women were at once hurried off to Siberia.

The slightest suspicion or accusation against a person is sufficient to secure his immediate transportation to Siberia without even the pretense of a trial.

A student accused of propagating revolutionary views was arrested in Moscow last September, and as there was no evidence against him he was subsequently discharged. Then he was rearrested and thrown into a dungeon, where he went stark mad, ending his miserable existence by igniting his clothes and burning himself alive.

## Age of British Soldiers.

The average age of the British soldier now at the front is nearly two years higher than that of the soldier who fought at Waterloo.

## AGRICULTURAL HINTS.

YIELDS FAIR FORAGE.

German Millet Has Found Considerable Favor with Southern and Western Farmers.

This millet is called, also, southern millet, American millet, golden millet, mammoth millet, Bengal grass, Dakota millet. It grows to a height of four or five feet, and has heads that are six to eight inches long and an inch wide. This variety has been in general cultivation in the south since the early seventies, but was introduced into the United States many years earlier. Prof. Crozier regards the East Indies as the most probable source of its introduction into the United States, and re-



GERMAN MILLET.

A and B, Two Views of the Spikelet with Its Cluster of Three Beards; C, Seed.

marks that the name "Bengal grass," by which it was first known in this country, suggests such an origin. Flint, on the contrary, makes the statement that it was first brought to the United States from Europe. However this may be, it seems that the seed used in Tennessee, where this variety first came into real prominence, was brought from France in the early sixties, and since that time has been the leading millet sown in the south. German millet makes a heavy yield of forage under favorable conditions, but does not stand drought as well as the smaller varieties, such as common millet and Hungarian. The hay is coarser and less highly valued than that from the smaller millets, but when the forage can be fed in the green state this will be found to be an excellent variety to grow, on account of the heavy yield.

German millet is the latest of the varieties commonly grown here, and his exceedingly variable in its appearance and habit of growth. It is very seldom that one sees a field that is uniform in character. Many, perhaps most, of the heads may be typical of the variety, but usually there will be many others scarcely to be distinguished from common millet or other standard varieties.

## PREPARING SOD GROUND.

Why It Should Be Plowed at the First Favorable Opportunity During the Winter.

In most cases when a piece of sod ground is to be prepared for planting to corn in the spring, it will be a good plan to plow at the first favorable opportunity during the winter.

The thawing and freezing to which it will usually be subjected will aid in loosening and disintegrating the sod, and making it an easier task to work into a proper tith for planting. It is important in plowing sod to turn the top sod completely over. It is best for corn especially to plow reasonably deep. Deep plowing and shallow cultivation will give the best results. It will also make it easier work to prepare the soil in a good tith if care is taken to plow thoroughly at the start.

Freshly plowed old sod requires considerable work to prepare it in good tith, and if the plowing is delayed until spring, after grass has made a start to grow, even more work is required.

Sod ground can be plowed in many cases when old ground would be entirely too wet. After plowing, it is usually not advisable to disturb it again until ready to prepare for planting. At this time there is no better implement to use than a good disc harrow. Unless the sod is old and tough one good going over with the harrow, lapping well, will be sufficient, but with old sod it may be necessary to go over twice, the first time the way the land was plowed, and the second time crosswise. It is best to lap well, and to cut reasonably deep. The disc harrow will cut thoroughly, and then the smoothing harrow will fine and level down and put the soil in good condition for the seed. It pays with all crops, and especially one like corn, that is to be cultivated, to prepare the soil thoroughly before the seed is planted, and it will be best to go over with the disc and smoothing harrows several times in order to secure this condition, rather than to plant with the soil in rough condition.

In a system of rotation corn after grass is one of the best plans, but in securing a good growth and yield, it is essential that the soil be well prepared.—St. Louis Republic.

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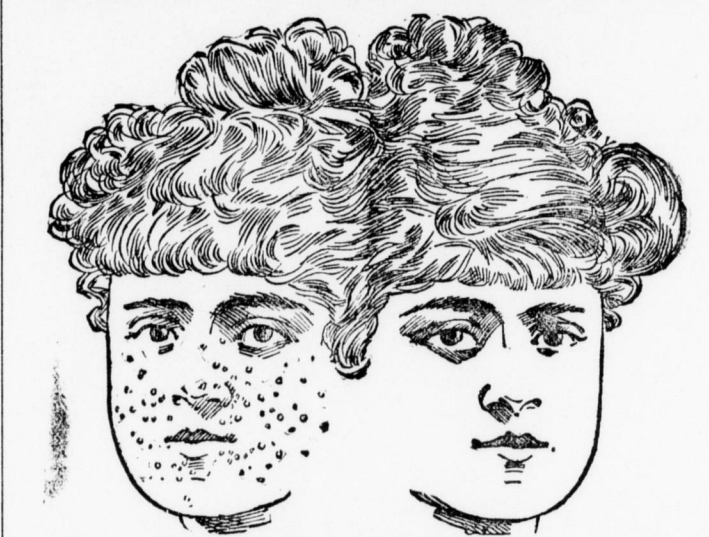
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